

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 01970 031446Z

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ACTION NEA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6150

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 1970

DEPT PLEASE PASS AMBASSADOR KEATING

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IS

SUBJECT EBAN KOL ISRAEL BROADCAST IN ENGLISH

REF TEL AVIV 1930, 1937

1. RADIO ISRAEL HAS PROVIDED ENGLISH VERSION OF EBAN
INTERVIEW BROACAST EVENING OF MARCH 30, RELEVANT PORTIONS
OF WHICH FOLLOW:

2. EBAN, DISCUSSING THE RECENT NEGOTIATONS: : QUOTE...
ISRAEL MAOVED AWAY FROM ITS INITIAL POSTIONS TO CENTRAL
POINTS OF COMPROMISE, SHOWING VERY GREAT FLEXIBILITY, BOTH
ON THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE ANDON THE ISSUE OF WHAT WAS REQUIRD
OF EGYPT. THE EXTRAORDINARY THING ABOUT THIS NEGOTIATON IS
THAT IN THE EGYPTIAN CASE THE INITIAL POSITIONS WERE THE
FINAL POSITIONS, OR EVEN MORE BIZARRE, THE FINAL POSITIONS
WRE EVEN MOR RIGID AND HARSH THAN THE INITIAL POSITIONS.
BUT IN MY OPINION WE OUGHT TO GET AWAY AS QUICKLEY ASPOSSIBLE
FROM ALL THIS DETAILED INQUIRY INTO WHAT HAPPENED.

3. THE QUESTION IS NOT WHAT HAPPENED, BUT WHAT SHOULD WE DO
NOW. THE FIRST THING THAT WE SHOULD DO NOW IS THAT
AMERICAN AND ISRAEL SHOULDRENEW A TACTICAL AND STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIP. IF IT IS TO BE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, LT US
SEE HOW WE CAN AVOID THE DNAGERS...LET US SEE HOW WE CAN
GET THE UNITED STATES, FOR EXAMPLE, TO REMAIN FAITHFUL TO
SOME OF ITS POSITION, SUCH AS THE POSITION THAT THE
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BOUNDARIES DO HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED; THEY CANNOT SIMPLY BE

MCHANICALLY RESTORED TO WHAT THEY WERE, WHICH WAS THE ESTABLISHED AMERICAN POSITION, OR THE POSITION THAT ON THE QUESTION OF THE PALESTINAINS, ISRAEL IS ENTITLED NOT TO HAVE TO DISCUSS ITS EXISTENCE WITH THOSE WHO DENY ITS EXISTENCE OR SOVEREIGNTY.

4. INTERVIEWER: WOULD YOU CONCENTRATE ON EXPLAINING THIS POSITION TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AS A WHOLE OR TO AMERICAN LEADERS?

EBAN: I THINK THAT THE DIFFICULTIES HAVE ARisen NOT SO MUCH IN THE RELATIONS OF ISRAEL WITH THE MASSES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, WHICH DOES NOT REALLY GO INTO SOME OF THESE VERY INTRICATE DETAILS. I THINK THE REAL POINT OF WEAKNESS IS AT THAT PLACE WHERE OUR GREATEST STRENGHT RESIDES, NAMELY THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES. YOU CANNOT REALLY READ THESE STATEMENTS BY SENATOR PERCY, BY MEMBERS OF A COMMITTEE, BY SENATOR SPARKMAN, BY SENATOR MCGOVERN AND OTHERS WITHOUT SEEING THAT THERE IS NEED FOR THE REPAIR OF POLITICAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ISRAEL--NOT AN ITS ADVERSARIES--BUT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SOME OF ITS TRADITIONAL FRIENDS. ALL THESE ARE PEOPLE WHOM I HAVE KNOWN FOR A VERY LONG TIME AND HAVE GROWN ACCUSTOMED IN THE LAST TWO DECADES TO HOLD A DIALOGUE WITH ME AND IT IS PRINCIPALLY THERE THAT I'LL SUGGEST THAT I CAN BE OF USE. UNQUOTE.

VELIOTES

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED AMBASSADOR KEATING.

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